

REMARKS

Claims 1-43, 47 and 49-50 are pending in this application, with claims 2-10 allowed and claims 11-35 withdrawn. By this Amendment, claim 48 has been canceled, claims 1, 36 and 43 are amended, and new claims 49 and 50 have been added. In the Office Action dated June 2, 2004, claims 1, 36-43, 47 and 48 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) (two different rejections) and claim 48 was rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a). No new matter has been added. Applicants request reconsideration of the rejections of claims 1, 36-43, and 47, and consideration of claims 49-50.

Claims 1 and 36-43 were rejected as being anticipated by Okutsu et al. (U.S. Patent No. 6,433,623 "hereinafter Okutsu").

Claim 48 was rejected as being anticipated by Hideo (JP 10-144080). Also, claim 48 was rejected as being unpatentable over Choi (U.S. Patent No. 6,060,930) in view of Tomobe et al. (U.S. Patent No. 6,198,334). The cancellation of claim 48 renders moot the rejections of claim 48.

Claim 1 recites in part:

wherein the change control circuit includes an inverter having an input fixed to the high potential power supply.

Claim 36 recites in part:

an inverter connected to the first transistor for controlling the first transistor to generate a boosted voltage by performing the boosting of an output signal of the level shift circuit using the capacitor, wherein the boosted voltage is larger than the voltage of the high potential power supply.

Claim 43 recites in part:

wherein the charge control circuit includes an inverter connected to the capacitor for generating the boosted voltage.

New claim 49 recites in part:

wherein the charge control circuit includes an inverter, the low potential power supply terminal of which receives a voltage that changes based on an input signal provided to the level shift circuit.

New claim 50 recites in part:

wherein the charge control circuit includes an inverter which outputs a voltage changing between a first voltage level and a second voltage level and wherein the second voltage level is larger than the first voltage level and the voltage of the high potential power supply.

In contrast, the inverter G14 of Okutsu is used as a normal inverter in the switch circuit 13 and is different from the inverter of the present invention as recited in each of claims 1, 36, 43, 49 and 50. Accordingly, the claimed invention distinguishes over Okutsu.

Consequently, Okutsu fails to teach and/or suggest the claimed invention. Specifically this reference fails to teach and/or suggest “wherein the charge control circuit includes an inverter having an input fixed to the high potential power supply.” Similarly, Okutsu fails to teach and/or suggest “an inverter connected to the first transistor for controlling the first transistor to generate a boosted voltage by performing the boosting of an output signal of the level shift circuit using the capacitor, wherein the boosted voltage is larger than the voltage of the high potential power supply.” And, this reference fails to teach and/or suggest “wherein the charge control circuit includes an inverter connected to the capacitor for generating the boosted voltage.” Therefore, Applicant

requests reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejection of claims 1, 36-43, and 47 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e).

Similarly, Okutsu fails to teach and/or suggest “wherein the charge control circuit includes an inverter, the low potential power supply terminal of which receives a voltage that changes based on an input signal provided to the level shift circuit.” And, Okutsu fails to teach and/or suggest “wherein the charge control circuit includes an inverter which outputs a voltage changing between a first voltage level and a second voltage level and wherein the second voltage level is larger than the first voltage level and the voltage of the high potential power supply.” Therefore, new claims 49-50 are allowable over the cited art.

Applicants submit that the application is now in condition for allowance. If the Examiner believes that the application is not in condition for allowance, Applicants respectfully request that the Examiner contact the undersigned attorney by telephone, if it is believed that such contact will expedite the prosecution of the application.

In the even that this paper is not considered to be timely filed, Applicants respectfully petition for an appropriate extension of time. Please charge any fee deficiency or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 01-2300, referencing attorney docket number 108075-00054.

Respectfully submitted,



Rustan J. Hill
Registration No. 37,351

Customer No. 004372
ARENT FOX PLLC
1050 Connecticut Avenue, N.W.,
Suite 400
Washington, D.C. 20036-5339
Tel: (202) 857-6000
Fax: (202) 638-4810

RJH/tdd